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HOUSE MEMORIAL 7

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2004

INTRODUCED BY

Kandy Cordova

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING A MOVE TOWARD PARITY BETWEEN THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT ACT AND THE EDUCATIONAL RETIREMENT ACT TO ATTRACT
AND RETAIN TEACHERS STATEWIDE AND TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY
EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN OF NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico is facing a shortage of
teachers as a result of retirements, resignations and
difficulties attracting and retaining quality individuals to
the profession; and

WHEREAS, research confirms that teacher quality is the
single most influential determinant of student academic
success, outside of home and family circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the disparity between the retirement benefits of
the Public Employees Retirement Act and the Educational
Retirement Act has been a growing concern since the 1994

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1 amendments to the Public Employees Retirement Act expanded the
2 retirement benefits of public employees; and

3 WHEREAS, the lack of parity between retirement benefits
4 mandated by the Public Employees Retirement Act and by the
5 Educational Retirement Act may be a contributing factor to the
6 teacher shortage in New Mexico; and

7 WHEREAS, the legislature has attempted to correct this
8 disparity since 1994;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state of
11 New Mexico move toward parity between the Public Employees
12 Retirement Act and the Educational Retirement Act to attract
13 and retain teachers statewide and to provide a high quality
14 education for the children of New Mexico; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
16 transmitted to the secretary of public education and the
17 legislative education study committee.